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OSA-1718-63
17 May 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Assistant Director, OSA

SUBJECT: [] Job

1. In order to make your day complete, I thought I would finish the conversation which we left hanging yesterday regarding the designation of [] as Deputy to John Parangosky with responsibility for tying together the loose ends of technology. The job as you described it, I fear, would run into direct competition to those functions and responsibilities now claimed by the Programs Staff. As you will recall, [] was originally destined for John Parangosky's office to perform similar type tasks. With the establishment of the Programs Staff, however, and since [] basic responsibility would be comparable to programming, it was decided, and I think rightly so, that he should be assigned to the Programs Staff and bring those functions with him. [] job, as I gather, although possibly greater in dimension, would encompass these same functions.

2. As you will recall, when Colonel Ledford first approached me on programming and asked me to look into the need for a Programs Staff in this office, I had recommended strongly against its establishment, having concluded that the capabilities of Contracts and Budget and Finance could provide the same information necessary for programming, provided someone levied the requirement upon them and offered them the necessary guidance. As is quite evident, Colonel Ledford was not sold on my recommendation and I must confess that I had previously recommended against the Programs Staff out of ignorance of what exactly was required and what he wanted. Being a little more wise at the moment, I sincerely feel that there is a definite need for a programming-type function in OSA; if I did not feel that way, I would not be in the job I am in now. Developing a programming capability, however, does not happen overnight. Because of my own lack of experience in programming, I have been deliberately cautious in setting up the Staff and in getting involved in the true exercise of programming. Having concluded that FY 1963 would not permit sufficient time to become effective, I have geared the

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SUBJECT: [] Job

Programs Staff for an operational ready date of 1 July with the new Fiscal Year. At that time every contract and activity held by OSA will be programmed to provide a ready reflection of the objective, total cost and expenditure rate of a project or contract as it progresses.

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3. If Programs Staff works properly, we will not find ourselves caught as we now do with the many overruns and lack of funds which surprisingly hit us without forewarning. I think this is the type of function which you wanted accomplished when you first thought of [] for JP's shop. With the Programs Staff now in being, however, I feel that this responsibility must rest solely in the Programs Staff if we are to avoid duplication of effort within the Division.

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4. I think we have reached a point now where Contracts, Budget and Finance and the Programs Staff are working in harmony and should achieve optimum effectiveness with the onset of Fiscal Year 1964. I fear that if [] responsibilities include those functions we mentioned last night, he and I will overlap considerably.

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[]
Chief, Programs Staff
(Special Activities)

Dist:

- 2 - DAD/OSA
- 1 - EXO/OSA
- 2 - PS/OSA
- 1 - RB/OSA

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C/PS/OSA: [] (17 May 63)

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